Welcome to Girl Scouts of Central Maryland! Your appointment letter is the first step toward your volunteer experience. This checklist of training/learning opportunities will help ensure your successful completion of the volunteer process.

Registering for Adult Learning Opportunities

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland offers online registration. Visit www.gscm.org and click the “Register Online” button at the right of the page to register for membership, girl programs, and adult training. Online registration instructions are posted on the site. Once you register for a course, you will get an email confirmation. If the course is a self-study, you will get further information on how to access the materials.

Training/Learning Opportunities

Girl Scouting 101 - This online video from GSUSA is an introduction to Girl Scouts’ inspiring national leadership experience, from Journey resources and The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting, to cookie sales, safety guidelines, and much more. The intended audience for this course is volunteers who are new to the organization, whether they work directly with girls or behind the scenes. If you are not in a leadership role, please contact your Service Unit Manager, Membership and Community Development Specialist, or troop leader to see if any other training is required.

Service Unit Meet and Greet – This meeting will be facilitated by service team member or your Membership and Community Development Specialist (MCDS). In addition to learning about your local Service Unit and support team, leaders will received a Troop Resource Packet which includes materials to help get your troop started.

Introduction to Girl Scout Leadership - This self-study course is required for volunteers in leadership roles – Leaders and Co-Leaders. Information covered will include GSCM Policies, Banking Information, Safety Information, and Basic Troop information.

Grade Level Training - Grade level trainings are offered for Daisy, Brownie, Junior, and Teen leaders. Through these courses you will learn to work with the program materials, plan meetings, and utilize resources.

For your troop to have a complete leadership experience, you will need to have volunteers trained in the following areas. These roles could be filled by other adults registered with the troop.

Outdoor Training

The following Outdoor courses are required for the Girl Scout volunteer designated to lead the girls in outdoor experiences.

Outdoor 101 - Prerequisite: Girl Scouting 101. This self-study course focuses on age-appropriate activities, outdoor progression, reservation procedures, and safety hazards. It is the pre-requisite for all other outdoor courses.

Basic Troop Camping and Open Fire Cooking - Prerequisite: Outdoor 101. This adult training is required when using an open fire for cooking and/or when planning to troop/group camp with girls at GSCM or non-GSCM sites with established restrooms and sleeping facilities such as cabins, screened in shelters, and platform tents/yurts. This course will demonstrate how to prepare girls for camping in the out of doors. This training includes a pre-course self-study, a planning meeting, and an overnight.
Tent Camping - Prerequisite: Outdoor 101 and Basic Troop Camping. This adult training is required when your troop/group will be using tents when camping in the out of doors at GSCM or non-GSCM sites with established restrooms/latrines and fire circles. Troops should have experience in lodges or cabins and yurts or platform tents before Tent Camping.

There are also optional enrichment trainings listed on the council website. Additional courses are added year-round.

Safety -

First Aid/CPR Training - Many Girl Scout activities require the presence of a First Aider. First Aid/CPR training is required of the adult acting as the primary first aider for Girl Scout group activities as per the GSUSA Safety Activity Checkpoints. First Aid/CPR trainings are listed in our online registration site.

Additional Options: GSCM has a partnership with the American Red Cross which provides for a 20% discount on Red Cross courses. If you would like to take First Aid/CPR training through them, please contact the GSCM Adult Learning Specialist before registering for the discount code.

You may have individuals in your troop who are already First Aid/CPR trained or are a nurse, physician, paramedic, physician’s assistant, or emergency medical personnel who have had advanced training beyond standard first aid and community CPR. If so, they may serve as your first aider by completing the First Aider registration form 08-1602, available on our website, and provide their certification or licensing.

Support/Resources Available:

If you have Adult Learning questions or requests please contact Valerie Brooks, Adult Learning Specialist at vbrooks@gscm.org or by phone 410-358-9711

Please visit the training section of our website, www.gscm.org/for-volunteers/volunteer-training/, for additional information.

We hope your volunteer experience with Girl Scouts of Central Maryland is enjoyable and rewarding.